

Cylchlythyr | Circular

Consultation on open access in the post-2014 Research Excellence Framework

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To: Heads of higher education institutions in Wales
Response by: 30 October 2013
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This consultation sets out proposals for the implementation of an open access requirement in the post-2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

If you require this document in an alternative accessible format, please telephone us on (029) 2068 2225 or email info@hefcw.ac.uk.



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Introduction

1. This consultation sets out proposals for the implementation of an open access requirement in the post-2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF). **These proposals have no relevance to the 2014 REF.**

Background

2. The UK higher education funding bodies published initial proposals on requirements for open access publication in the post-2014 REF in February 2013, as the basis for informal comment and advice. The development of the proposals contained in the formal consultation have been informed by the responses to that process.

Consultation proposals

3. The consultation seeks comments on the proposed criteria for open access in the post-2014 REF, the definition of the research outputs to which the criteria will apply, and the proposed approaches to allowing exceptions from the open access requirement.
4. The UK-wide consultation document can be accessed at www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/year/2013/201316/. A link to the consultation document has also been published alongside this Circular, under *Secondary Documents*.
5. A number of consultation events for HEIs will be held in the autumn. The events will outline the proposals and provide an opportunity for institutions to raise any issues for clarification and discussion. Registration will be available online, using a form provided alongside the consultation document. HEIs across the UK may register up to two delegates each for these events.

Responses

6. Responses should be made online, using the form provided alongside the consultation document. In order to provide a UK-wide picture, HEFCE will undertake an analysis of all responses submitted. Additionally, following the response deadline, HEFCE will provide HEFCW with copies of all responses from Welsh HEIs and other respondents in Wales.
7. The deadline for responses is **17.00 on 30 October 2013**.

Further information

8. For further information on any issues specific to Wales, contact Linda Tiller (tel 029 2068 2228; email linda.tiller@hefcw.ac.uk). For general queries on the proposals, contact openaccess@hefce.ac.uk, tel 0117 931 7470.